

TOC H

JOURNAL



SEPTEMBER

1958

PRESENTING NEWS, VIEWS AND IDEAS



**PUBLISHED BY TOC H AT FORTY-SEVEN
FRANCIS STREET • LONDON • S.W. 1**



Toc H Diaries

The 1959 edition of the Toc H Diary is now in the press. Delivery is promised by the manufacturers for mid-September and the cost will remain the same as this year: 4s. 0d., or fitted with a pencil 4s. 6d., postage free.

Rugby Game

London and Home Counties members and friends are warmly invited to the Rugby game:

Rosslyn Park v. 'Tubby' Clayton's XV

Rochampton Ground

6.30 p.m.

Wednesday, September 17.

Proceeds to Putney Park Branch's Film Unit.

Toc H Booksellers

We are now recognised by the Publisher's Association as retail booksellers and members requiring books on religious or sociological subjects can obtain them through Toc H Publications Dept. and thereby help the Family Purse.

Acknowledgement

We are indebted to 'Walt' (R. F. Waters) for the cartoons, specially drawn for the JOURNAL, reproduced on pages 311 and 316.

Advertisements

Manufacturers of a wide range of articles of interest to our readers will find the JOURNAL pages very helpful in making their goods and services known. Enquiries should be sent to Stan Waters, who handles our advertising, at Messrs. Arthur H. Wheeler & Co., St. Stephen's House, Victoria Embankment, London, S.W.1.

Ourselves

The TOC H JOURNAL is published monthly, eleven times a year. The April issue is a double number and there is no August number. A subscription can commence with any issue and costs only 9s. for a complete year.

N.B.—A price concession to 7s. 6d. per dozen, post free, is made to all Branches ordering a minimum of one dozen copies.

THIRTY-SIXTH YEAR OF PUBLICATION

TOC H JOURNAL



SEPTEMBER 1958

Letters and articles are welcomed and are
printed as individual points of view only

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COVER PICTURE: Basketball between Winant Volunteers and a local team following the opening ceremony, by H.R.H. Princess Alexandra of Kent on July 15, of the new Toc H Games ground on Tower Hill, constructed on the site of a former bombed office block.

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In and Out

notes and comment

Holiday Discoveries THE TOC H CONVOY OF ninety cars, organised by a Midland Branch to transport 300 of their old folk on a day's outing must have attracted considerable

attention. Less spectacular, but equally important, are the number of members and friends who responded to the Family Service Unit's appeal for holidays in private homes for underprivileged youngsters. It is not unnatural for some to feel diffident about accepting responsibility for other people's children, but in most cases these holidays have proved most successful. Differences in background and experience often come out in the children's remarks, and we heard of one small girl commenting disapprovingly on the use of a vacuum cleaner, pointing out that her mum always used a brush. The digging of potatoes caused surprise to a boy who couldn't understand why his host had buried them. A twelve-year-old boy, on his second visit, enthusiastically aroused his hosts at 6 a.m. to go bird watching—a pursuit to which they had introduced him on his previous visit. Where the holiday invitation becomes an 'annual' event the youngsters gain an 'aunt and uncle' from whom they may learn for the first time the nature of a secure and stable home, and it is hoped that even more such holiday 'discoveries' will be made next year.

'Orrible 'Arry

MOST MEMBERS IN WEST LONDON HAVE CAUSE to know 'Orrible 'Arry, the favoured nickname of Harry Hagan of Putney Park Branch.

His enthusiasm for Toc H was nurtured in the stern atmosphere of a P.O.-W camp and once he gets smitten with an idea one might as well argue it out with a bulldozer. He it was who discovered the whereabouts of a Stalag Branch banner, long after all other efforts to trace it had failed. Harry's late night rambles with a barrow, carrying the unit's cine equipment, have before now aroused police suspicions and we suspect his handiwork in the forthcoming rugby match, Rosslyn Park v. Tubby Clayton's XV. His latest brain-child is a suggestion that Branches advertising their public efforts should use five Toc H posters in a row, instead of the usual one. Our Publications department willingly endorses this idea, although fearful that it is but the prelude to Harry demanding that they issue 16-sheet posters!

Intimate Impression

TWO YOUNG CLERKS FROM A CITY OFFICE WERE overheard discussing the new spire at All Hallows whose erection is now nearly completed. The first said, looking up at the scaffolding: "What's a spire got to do with religion, anyway?" The second replied: "It's not religion—it's architecture!" This story, in company with many little-known details about the ancient church, comes from *All Hallows, Guild Church of Toc H*, newly published by Toc H Women's Association at the very modest cost of a shilling. The booklet provides a series of intimate impressions by several writers and is itself complementary to John Durham's *A History of All Hallows by-the-Tower* which, we learn, has had a bumper sale amongst this summer's visitors.

Out of Africa

EIGHTY-FIVE YEARS HAVE PASSED SINCE DAVID Livingstone, the poor Scottish boy who opened up a continent, was buried in Westminster Abbey. Today, Livingstone's Africa stands on the cross-roads of that continent. A most readable account of its complex problems has been written by the Rt. Hon. James Griffiths, a former Colonial Secretary, in *Livingstone's Africa: Yesterday and Today*, (Epworth Press, 7s. 6d.) in which he quotes Livingstone "The opening up of the new country is a matter for congratulation only in so far as it opens up a prospect for the elevation of all the inhabitants." Mr. Griffiths points to the crucial choices which present themselves to statesmen and people today—choices which will 'make themselves' if responsible men do not make them. There is also news of the issue of Alan Paton's *Cry, the Beloved Country* as a paper-back in the Penguin series. This fine book, written with a compassionate understanding, has already made a big contribution towards informing opinion on the problems of a multi-racial society and can be confidently counted to extend its influence still wider in this new format.

N.Z. Digest to Cease

A MUCH VALUED MEANS OF CONTACT WITH THE wider Family is provided by Toc H overseas journals, and every month we look forward to their regular arrival in this country. Now, with the current number of the *N.Z. Toc H Digest* comes the sad news that rising production costs and a limited circulation have brought a decision to cease its publication. It is little consolation to know that the subscribers are being transferred to the JOURNAL, for we can ill afford to lose this New Zealand link. On personal grounds, too, we shall miss the writings of Jack Davies, its Editor, who before going to New Zealand shared an adjoining office to our own and was never too busy to help out with sound common sense and practical assistance.

A Matter of Action

JOHN CALLF

Based on an address given by the Toc H Administrator
at the British Council of Churches' Whitsun Conference

SOMETIMES in my more sardonic moments I find myself thinking rather in the manner of C. S. Lewis, of the devil sending his nephew Wormwood into the world to make a reconnaissance of the Christian Church and to recommend steps that could be taken to render it impotent. I can imagine young Wormwood turning up several days later, sitting down and saying "There's nothing we can do, they've done everything! They've organised themselves into large groups, too big for real fellowship to be possible, and the result is that ninety per cent. of them are usually with no work to do. They put themselves into large buildings and then spend a large proportion of their time trying to maintain the buildings in reasonable repair. Each Church pays one man to do most of the talking and most of the thinking, and the more eloquent the preacher usually the more inarticulate is the congregation. They're split into denominations. In most of those denominations the central act of worship is a Service which they say is based on the original pattern of what was called 'The Love Feast', but whenever the denominations come together to seek unity, the conversation gets round to the subject of the Love Feast, then, boy, that's when the fighting really breaks out! In other words, Uncle Lucifer, it's a sweet set-up . . . leave them to it."

The two doors

Last year I had the privilege of seeing something of the Church of South India, and you know what kind of a thrill that would be. You can imagine therefore how damping it was to return to this country and to see the headlines and hear the howls which greeted the attempts at closer union between the Presbyterian and the Anglican Churches. The Anglicans for their part seemed to be exhorting the Presbyterians to come out with their hands up for Episcopacy, and metaphorically speaking one could hear the rumble of the wagons through the streets of Edinburgh on their way to the ancient barricades of history, in defence of—well—in defence of what? It does seem indeed that in the field of church order and theology the

forces are so deeply dug in that one wonders sometimes if victories will ever be won on that particular front by frontal attack? It is important that conversations should go on, but while the experts in church order and theology are tackling things, so to speak, at the front door, is there any reason why some of us should not go round to the back and see if there is anything useful that we can do there in the meantime?

Matter of history

Arnold Toynbee maintains that the Christian Church took a wrong turning in the early days when it tried to translate Christianity into terms which would be acceptable to the Greek philosophers, in other words to make Christianity intellectually respectable. Toynbee maintains that St. Paul was much more on the right track when he was prepared to let Christianity be as it was, the thing which was to the Greeks foolishness and to the Jews a stumbling block. It is an interesting matter of history that although Paul seems to have done his level best in Athens to establish Christianity amongst those philosophers, so far as we know he achieved no success whatsoever. Presumably the philosophers went on talking and that was as far as it got.

The humanist philosophers and scientists today, I would suspect, stand largely discredited. Those we have seen from time to time on television scarcely give the impression of having the answers that the world is seeking. I don't think I've ever seen such a bunch of barren fig trees as some of them when they have attempted to give answers to the problems of people who are baffled and bemused by the fears and anxieties of modern life. If the philosophers and scientists stand discredited today, as perhaps they caused the Church to be half a century ago, then it may not be unreasonable to think that the call may go up "Back to the Church", but I think that would be followed very often by the question "Which Church?", and "What kind of Gospel?", which all makes it very important that we folk who are of the Church should do our best to be preaching the same Gospel—the united Gospel. What is more I think it needs to be essentially a practical Gospel.

P. T. Forsyth forty years ago declared that one mistake of the Church was that it treated Revelation as if its element were truth and not action, something to hold, not to obey, and he believed that the Gospel message was in effect identifying us with the moral energy of God (not just moral truth!) imparted to the world. It might well seem to us that in recent history there has been too much proclaiming of the truth and not enough "doing" the truth. I think not a bad maxim today would be "Cursed are the speech makers for they shall inhibit the earth".

This Gospel of ours, this one united Gospel, is, surely, a call to join in as ministers of the moral energy of God in a world which

needs it whichever way you turn. Is it not an observable fact that Christ did not set up as a lecturer, proclaiming the truth? Had that been His main object then surely He would have done it best by setting up a school and choosing intellectually bright receptive pupils. Instead of that He did the opposite: He picked a very ordinary work-a-day bunch of men, unlettered for the most part, and took them on a tramp looking for things to do. In fact He submitted them to an experience, a fellowship, an active fellowship. And His teaching was not so much the prelude as the explanation which followed action.

It is because I regard Christianity as being a matter of action, first and foremost, that I find these television arguments between Christians and non-Christians so thoroughly futile and unsatisfying performances, between people who are scarcely talking the same language. The critics of Christianity, it seems to me, are criticising something that they have never experienced. That may not, of course, be necessarily their fault, for they may have had an unfortunate experience. But Christianity is just not something which one can discuss as an intellectual or a theological proposition. It is so much an experience, an activity, the involvement in a fellowship, and our job surely is to give people the opportunity of having an experience that is authentically their own. After all if the Gospel that we present is simply the gospel of what has happened to other people, then I doubt if it can long stand. You can't live on a borrowed experience.

Beginning through activity

It should be noted that to suggest that Christianity should be offered as an involvement in an activity is not proclaiming the Pelagian heresy of salvation by works, and it is not to say that theology does not matter. The whole point is that involvement in activity leads a man on. It causes him to ask questions, it subjects him to experiences which will demand a theology to account for them. It brings man to the realisation that he needs a power beyond himself and that of himself he can do very little. An activity will bring a man, if wisely led, to the realisation that activity alone is insufficient. There are times when, to be truly active, one must also become completely passive and learn to wait upon God. And so, beginning through activity, many a man will find himself asking questions, seeking answers, until eventually he finds himself brought to the Cross and to the reality of its meaning. After all this is no new theory. It is just simply a restatement that "They that do the will shall know the doctrine."

Not once but many times in my experience of Toc H I have seen that happen. There is in every Branch of Toc H worth its salt an officer called the Jobmaster, and it is his job to make

certain that the fellowship of the Branch is made to overflow into acts of service to the community roundabout. Many a time I have seen a man come into a Branch, become involved in the fellowship and thereby be invited by them to join in a job of work, maybe in a hospital, or a blind club, helping old folks—any one of a whole host of things. And from the time that the man became involved in the activity one was able to see him grow and develop.

John McMurray has just published a book called *The Self as Agent* and in that book he says that throughout history, philosophy starting from the primacy of the *theoretical* has always tended to move in an atheistic direction, carrying the whole of society with it. But McMurray says that the argument which starts from the primacy of the *practical* moves steadily in the direction of a belief in God. That is demonstrably true within our Toc H experience. I know of many men who are now in the mainstream of Church life, some, indeed, in the Ministry itself, who first began to move in the direction of their belief in God when a Toc H Jobmaster got hold of them and linked their energies to the moral energy of God.

Corporate activities

We in the Churches could well do with a Ministry of Works as well as the Ministry of the Word, and should train not only lay preachers but make ourselves better lay practitioners. We need to raise the standing of the term "keen church worker". Too often, alas, in the public imagination it suggests the man with the over-hearty hand-shake or the rather repressed woman trailing an odour of damp hassocks. I believe we should do far more to link our Churches of the various denominations in corporate activities in our communities. I think two useful things would flow from that. First of all we would be a demonstrable unity, and after all the British Council of Churches' Inter-Church Aid and Refugee Service, and such activities as the I.V.S.P. have shown the value of demonstrating to the world at large that there are many things in which we can work completely as one. Secondly, of course, in the process of working together we would be drawn ever closer to one another, and our denominational incompatibilities would come to mean ever less and less. Harold Moulton has pointed out that our denominational disunity is frequently the symptom of a deeper disunity within our own personalities. The exercise of service together would go a long way towards dispelling some of that spiritual liverishness which affects our outward relationships at times. I think there is a tremendous volume of unharnessed potential energy in the world, waiting there only to be linked to that moral energy of God. And to do it I believe that there is something to be said for presenting Christianity not primarily as an intellectual or a theological or a philosophical proposition, but as an invitation to an involvement in a fellowship of activity.

As one incidental to all this I would like to think that these workers from the various denominations could occasionally come together and meet in fellowship, maybe for supper together, and so compare experiences. I think our Lord would be present at that supper, even though the supper were only sausage and mash, for we should be gathered together in His name and for His service. I should hope that no hair-splitting genius would suddenly stand up to present, as a matter of fundamental importance, the question as to whether the use of mustard would invalidate the whole proceedings. We cannot come together in our Churches round the Communion table. Then can we not do this other thing, and have another kind of Love Feast—the consummation of our joint activities for the love of God? This is in no way intended to minimise the rightful importance that the Communion Service should have to every member in his own particular denomination. Let that go on exactly as before, but in addition why should we not have these other feasts to help underline our unity in action?

Some people may say that we're too late, and that in these days of the welfare state the opportunities no longer exist as they once did for acts of service to the community. All I can say is that if Our Lord were to come onto the scene today He would not have to look far to find work that needed doing. And neither should we, if we were willing to be guided by the Holy Spirit and let our imaginations be kindled. Let no-one pretend that the welfare state has made voluntary service obsolete. As one old friend of mine has said "The welfare state does not mean that the Kingdom of God has arrived. All it means is that Hell has been spring-cleaned."

I cannot speak as a theologian, vitally important as it is that we should listen to what the theologians have to say. I speak as a layman who believes that we lay folk can do a great deal to supplement their work by our practise of the Gospel. This Bible of ours is a unity, and after the Gospels come the Acts.



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Some of the visitors greeted by Tubby at Tower Pier (l.to r.)—Rt. Rev. M. E. Coleman (Qu'Appelle), Rt. Rev. A. E. Chadwell (Korea), Rt. Rev. H. W. Bradfield (Bath and Wells), Rt. Rev. H. E. Hives (Keewatin), Rt. Rev. H. Otter-Barry (Mauritius), Rt. Rev. A. E. Morris (Archbishop of Wales), Rev. Dr. P. B. Clayton, Rt. Rev. R. C. Halse (Archbishop of Brisbane), Rt. Rev. T. J. Savage (Zululand), Rt. Rev. L. Hunter (Sheffield), Rt. Rev. J. McCann (Meath), Rt. Rev. M. H. Harland (Durham), Rt. Rev. A. K. Warren (Christchurch), Rt. Rev. R. H. Waterman (Nova Scotia), Rt. Rev. R. W. Stopford (Peterborough), Rt. Rev. G. A. Chase (Ripon), Rt. Rev. T. T. Reed (Adelaide), Rt. Rev. F. R. Barry (Southwell), Rt. Rev. H. Ashdown (Newcastle).

WATERBORNE BISHOPS

PASSERS-BY along the Albert Embankment during the late afternoon of Monday, July 14, saw a succession of bishops, in London for the Lambeth Conference, embarking on a launch for a trip down the Thames with members of Toc H Central Executive and staff. Thirteen of them belonged to the United Kingdom while the remainder were from sees scattered throughout the world, including Hong Kong, Korea, Zululand, Pennsylvania, Central New York, Tasmania and Singapore. They came as the guests of Toc H and were all either members or supporters of the Movement.

On arriving at Tower Pier, Tubby was waiting to greet them and lead them on a visit to the finely rebuilt Trinity House and thence to Talbot House, 42 Trinity Square, for refreshments and a few words from Sir James Brown, a Church Commissioner. Later, the party crossed The Hill to All Hallows, where their happy and informal visit ended with Compline.

'People to People'

F. G. CHESWORTH

SOME of the most effective work in the House of Commons is said to take place in its Committee Rooms, and I am more inclined to believe this after attending a meeting held in one of them last month. This meeting had been called by three back-bencher M.Ps, Brian Harrison (Conservative), Mark Bonham Carter (Liberal) and Reginald Sorensen (Labour) to discuss with representatives of civic authorities and voluntary organisations the need for offering friendship on a far wider scale than at present to the many thousands of 'foreigners' living in Britain either as temporary visitors or on a more permanent basis.

Plan

A plan was put forward by Raymond Morris, Chairman of the International Friendship League, for a "People to People Week", aimed at a concentrated effort throughout Britain during a particular week to provide opportunities for acts of goodwill and hospitality towards overseas visitors and exiles. This is no fresh ground for the members of I.F.L. in its hundred branches, or for that matter the many Toc H men and women members already pledged "to foster a wide human interest in the lives and needs of their fellows"; but, if the plan is to succeed on a nation-wide scale, it will be necessary to reach out beyond those who are already actively engaged within voluntary organisations to the many more members of the general public at present sympathetic but uncommitted.

Preliminaries

So far as Toc H Branches are concerned, before attempting to spread the load to the uncommitted, it would be a good thing for them to examine their normal activities and see how these could be adjusted to fit in with "People to People Week". Then, to take a look at the other voluntary societies, together with the churches in their neighbourhood, and find out the ground already covered by them. This will prevent any overlapping of effort and it may then be possible to engage with them in combined operations and also, together, to persuade civic authorities to put on receptions for overseas visitors.

There still remains, however, the most important aspect of providing the visitors with an opportunity for meeting ordinary British people *in their own homes*, and here the preliminary contact established at receptions and meetings should prove most helpful.

Public

Some members may think that September 28–October 4, the date chosen for “People to People Week”, leaves little time to complete arrangements. But it can be pointed out that much important staff-work has already been done and that for many members of the voluntary organisations taking part this is an extension of already familiar activities, this time on a nationwide scale. Most Toc H Branches have already received an outline through their Area Secretaries, and during September the national Press and radio will be spreading the news to the general public. In those places where there is a branch of the I.F.L. they will be acting as a co-ordinating body, elsewhere this task will be undertaken by local churches or organisations and, although the *week* commences on September 28, the *work* will by no means end on October 4.



The
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Cigarette
of the Day



TOBACCO AT ITS BEST
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The Elder Brethren

'With proud thanksgiving . . .'

BENNETT.—On June 23, JOSEPH BENNETT, aged 61, a member of Sanderstead Branch. Elected 10.9.'56.

BLAIR.—In July, DAVID BLAIR, C.B.E., aged 82, lately Hon. Commissioner of Toc H in Chile. Elected 1.1.'29.

BLEDISLOE.—On July 3, at Lydney Park, Glos., The Viscount BLEDISLOE, P.C., G.C.M.G., K.B.E., aged 90, formerly Patron of Toc H in New Zealand, a Vice-President and President of the Toc H Association since 1935.

BUSE.—On June 18, BERTIE BUSE, aged 58, a member of Saltash Branch. Elected 6.10.'50.

CRABTREE.—On June 24, JAMES EDWARD CRABTREE, aged 51, a member of Weston-Super-Mare Branch. Elected 18.11.'52.

CURSON.—On June 26, JOHN OSBORNE CURSON, aged 74, a founder member of Wells-next-the-Sea Branch. Elected 26.11.'49.

DANN.—On June 18, BERNARD REGINALD ROWLAND DANN, aged 68, a member of Rusthall Branch. Elected 21.8.'33.

DINES.—On June 14, RICHARD L. G. DINES, M.B.E., Mediterranean Missions to Seamen, Gibraltar, formerly of Malta, a member of the Central General Members Branch. Elected 11.12.'29.

HARDY.—On May 30, Major JOCELYN LEE HARDY, D.S.O., M.C., aged 64, a member of Well-next-the-Sea Branch. Elected 11.3.'50.

HOGGINS.—On May 22, DAVID HENRY HOGGINS, aged 80, a member of Welshpool Branch. Elected 10.12.'40.

JONES.—On May 29, GERALD NORMAN JONES, C.B.E., D.S.O., Master Mariner Commodore, R.N.R. (Retired), aged 73, a member of North Wales Area General Members Branch. Elected 1.12.'47.

PETERSEN.—On June 6, ERNEST ALBERT KARL PETERSEN, aged 76, a member of Pitchcombe Branch. Elected 21.2.'40.

ROBERTS.—On July 3, JOSHUA HARRY ROBERTS, aged 71, a member of West Yorks Area General Members Branch. Elected 1.3.'25.

ROBERTS.—Suddenly on July 1, Major WILLIAM ROBERTS, aged 69, a member of Uphill Branch, Weston-Super-Mare. Elected 23.12.'48.

THOMAS.—On June 18, HERBERT NOEL STANLEY THOMAS, ('Uncle Tom'), aged 77, a founder member of Swanage Branch. Elected 9.9.'29.

WILKINSON.—On May 24, HERBERT WILKINSON, aged 42, a member of Gosport group. Elected 25.5.'43.

WILLIAMS.—On June 19, the Rev. BRIAN DONALD WILLIAMS, formerly a member of Greenwich Branch. Elected 24.11.'28.

In Memoriam

Charles, Viscount Bledisloe

During his address at the Memorial Service held at St. Margaret's, Westminster, on July 21, the Right Rev. A. K. Warren, Bishop of Christchurch, New Zealand, said:

Many tributes have already been paid to him and speakers have already dwelt in detail on the quite extraordinary wide range of his

achievements. Today I would strive to speak, simply, of him as a countryman, a statesman, a friend of men, and a man of faith.

Perhaps his greatest act of statesmanship was in the realm of race relations. When he came to New Zealand he quickly became convinced of the significance and importance of the Treaty of Waitangi, which a Maori leader has called the Magna Carta of his people; through it by peaceful agreement between the Maoris and Europeans, the country of the Maoris became part of the British Empire. He personally bought the site and presented it to the nation. Thanks to him and his wife today there stands restored the Georgian house in front of which the treaty had been signed. He equipped the house as a museum, and endowed it with two thousand acres of exotic forest that it might stand for ever as the Runnymede of New Zealand; and because of him the day of the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi has now become the National day of our people.

He was a friend of men. . . . His interest in Toc H, because wherever English-speaking people live it teaches them to serve their generation, his personal counselling of young people to give service to their fellow men, these all stem from his own interest in serving others.

He stood fast in the faith of his fathers, and like Bunyan's Mr. Standfast he might well have said:

"I see myself now at the end of my journey. My toilsome days are ended . . . I have formerly lived by hearsay and faith, but now I go where I shall live by sight and shall be with Him in whose company I delight myself."

For him faith was the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. And in his case we can indeed say "By it the Elders obtained a good report".

Richard Dines

The sudden death of 'Dicky' Dines, at the early age of forty-eight, will be lamented by seafarers all over the world and by the many thousands of ex-Servicemen who served during the last war in the Middle East and met him in the Toc H Services Club at Alexandria, where he was the Toc H Commissioner. In 1949, he was appointed Missioner of the Gibraltar Branch of the Mediterranean Mission to Seamen, and 'Jock' Brown writes:

Dicky never missed a chance to visit seamen of all nationalities in their ships or in hospital with books, giving them advice on all matters. A welcome awaited everyone in his home, a truly international hut. He was a great Christian, quiet in manner and speech, with a grand sense of humour and a helping hand for all.

I went out with him a few times in his boat. On tying up to the ship he would say "Hand up those bundles of books and follow me". Often the sea was so rough that I felt like lying down but "follow me" he would repeat and it was grand to see the sailor men crowding round him. Once I said how kind it was of him to come out with the books in such rough weather but he replied: "Jock, do you ever think how kind it is of the unknown folk at home who faithfully every month send out these books and magazines for the sailors?" This was surely the reply of a good and humble man.



Toe H Staff Conference at Westcott House, Cambridge, June 16-20, 1958.

Staff Conference

The names of those in the photograph opposite are given below, reading from left to right; the initials A.S. and A.P. stand for Area Secretary and Area Padre respectively.

FRONT ROW: (seated) J. Harrison (*Finance Sec.*), Rev. H. Leggate (*Field Commissioner*), Rev. R. J. Davies (*Administrative Padre*), J. Callf (*Administrator*), Rev. Dr. P. B. Clayton (*Founder Padre*), Rev. H. W. Howe (*Leader of Devotions*), Rev. H. F. Sawbridge (*Western H.A.P.*), G. R. Purdy (*West Mids. A.S.*), C. A. Cattell (*Kent & Sussex A.S.*), C. V. Young (*Northern A.S.*), Rev. S. V. Evans (*S.E. & S. London A.S.*), S. Swain (*Enroller of Toc H Builders*).

MIDDLE ROW: R. R. Calkin (*General Secretary*), J. W. Maddock (*Yorkshire A.S.*), Rev. A. G. Knight (*Southern A.P.*), E. R. Preston (*Commissioner, B.A.O.R.*), F. C. Campbell (*Mbr. Development Appeal Team*), J. E. Lucas (*Marks Pilot*), John Jans (*Tubby's A.D.C.*), F. G. Chesworth (*Editor JOURNAL*), J. H. M. Shaw (*Manchester A.S.*), R. D. Smith (*East Anglian A.S.*), G. A. Francis (*South Western A.S.*), B. Kingsley-Davies (*Surrey A.S.*), K. Prideaux-Brune (*Hon. Asst. Schools Sec.*), J. B. MacMillan (*Scottish Sec.*), C. Wintle (*Press Adviser*), W. F. Brooker (*Western A.S.*), K. A. Rogers (*Bursar*), Rev. S. R. Kenyon (*Padre, Mark XXI, Derby*), Rev. F. J. Green (*Eastern London A.P.*), R. L. Wheatley (*Notts. & Derby A.S.*), Wing-Cdr. G. Prigmore (*General Members' Hon. Sec.*), C. Shearer and D. Hatter (*Tubby's A.D.C.'s*), Rev. L. S. Rivett (*Yorkshire A.P.*).

BACK ROW: I. Fraser (*Lakeland A.S.*), J. H. Clark (*Houses Sec.*), C. Stevenson (*East Mids. A.S.*), W. T. Tobias (*London Staff*), G. R. R. Martin (*Overseas and Forces Sec.*), K. R. Rea (*Accountant*), G. S. Regis (*Staff-designate*), Rev. D. G. Harding (*South Western A.P.*), A. V. Bean (*Warden, Talbot House, Southampton*), M. B. Elson (*N. & W. London A.S.*), Lt.-Col. W. R. Elliott (*Chairman Overseas Advisory Panel*).

ALTHOUGH it is said to be a mistake to revisit the scene of one's former crimes, this year's Staff Conference was again held at Westcott House, Cambridge, in June and provided an ideal setting for one of the best staff gatherings in recent years.

For the inside of a week the Movement's problems and possibilities were ventilated, and discussed both in and out of sessions. One greatly valued feature was the temporary return to the fold of an ex-Administrator, Harold Howe, who led devotions each morning in chapel.

Tubby's many wide-spread commitments only permitted him to make a part-time stay, but he left hostages in the form of two of his Australian A.D.Cs, one of whom shared fully in the conference while the other, unfortunately, new to the vagaries of our 'summer' took to his bed with a bout of 'flu.

What can we do?

EDWIN DAVIDSON

Bishop Davidson's close association with Toc H, both at home and in Australia, covered a period of more than thirty-two years. His death on April 1, at the early age of fifty-nine, was sadly recorded in our May number and this article, one of the last he wrote, is gratefully reproduced from the April number of "The Link", the journal of Toc H, Australia

THERE ARE CERTAIN unequivocal commands in the New Testament, and one of them concerns the duty of witnessing. "Ye shall be witnesses" said Jesus to His Disciples on the last occasion on which He spoke to them. They took this command seriously. The whole of the Acts of the Apostles, as well as the subsequent history of the early Church, attests their determination to do what they had been told to do. They went out into a world for the most part unfriendly and critical and "turned it upside down".

We may not be as successful. Obviously we are not. Doors everywhere are closing to modern missionary enterprise as the rising tide of nationalism and independence, especially in Eastern countries, blocks the entrance of Christianity. There are many reasons for this refusal to permit further penetration of the Christian faith—the Easterner's identification of Christianity with Western civilisation, political policies aimed at encouraging the rehabilitation of ancient faiths, the desire to be entirely free of anything even remotely connected with the West—though this is not the place to discuss them. I merely mention them as causes of frustration.

Lack of Conviction

But the new countries are not the only ones providing the serious Christian with the feeling that we are "up against things". The West itself, however much it may stress the case for regarding its civilisation as Christian, is showing signs of a disturbing lack of conviction and in many places is obviously living on capital it has borrowed from a more vital past. Professor Arnold J. Toynbee, in his 1956 Dyason Lectures delivered in Australia, does not hesitate to remind us that a belief that has lost its foundations is a wasting asset, and warns us that in the ideological battle the West has little hope of confronting Com-

munism with success unless and until "the Western belief is put back again on to its original Christian foundations". The truth is that there is no guarantee whatsoever that the advance of Christianity is inevitable. The unpalatable fact is that countries for centuries claiming to be Christian can quickly be de-Christianised. The challenge of the contemporary world has to be met at home as well as abroad.

Meaning for us

What does this mean for us in Toc H? Since we are committed to the spread of Christianity, we obviously have to determine first of all the quality of our own faith. We cannot be content to lean on the past, or to think of our religion merely as a convenient weapon in the competition for power. It may be—if it is to have any cutting edge—a strong personal conviction. That is why I suggest that we do not hesitate to sit down and consider with ruthless honesty precisely what it means to us as persons to accept the name of Christian with all the obligations that go with that name.

Am I living on a faith my ancestors handed down to me but actually treating it as a disregarded heritage? Can I defend my faith with a reasonable display of grey-matter? Do I ever read books that will help me do this? Have I progressed beyond the stage of Sunday School or is my religion still a memory of childhood or disjointed bits of sermons once heard? Any attempt at answering these questions will reveal the quality of our faith. We shall soon know precisely what Christianity means to us, knowledge we need if we are to be effective witnesses to our faith.

Doing together

Let us take this matter a step further. It is not enough to take our stand merely as individuals: we live in a world intensely group conscious, one in which effectiveness is increased in proportion to the feeling of one-ness pervading members of the group. The first few friends of our Lord were not mere individualists. They belonged to a Family. What they did they did with the support and encouragement of a group. To what extent are we trying to be "Christian" without acknowledging our commitments as members of the Church? In a world that emphasises at every turn the need and the power of group activity, you and I cannot peddle our faith like some lonely seller of brushes. What we do we must do

together. Whatever we may feel about the Church, it remains the fellowship of the faithful. In it and through it we can accomplish far more than we can if we limit our witnessing to isolated acts.

In any case, this business of witnessing will never be easy. It will test our ingenuity, our courage, and our persistence. However frustrating the life we live in our community, however stiff the battle for the Christian in a world of pagan resurgence, we have to go on. There is nothing in the New Testament to suggest that the battle will cease or that, as far as this present world is concerned, we can count on easy victory. We had better make up our minds that, like Mr. Valiant-for-Truth, we must be prepared to take our marks and scars with us when the end comes. The world will always be frustrating. What counts in the long run is our loyalty.

Alan's Irregulars

TOM GULLIVER

"Can I borrow your oil for my boots, Charles?"

"Have you a spare piece of cord, Bob?"

"Has anyone seen a pair of socks walking around looking for their owner?"

THAT WAS TOC H LANGDALE CAMP getting ready for the assault on Harrison Stickle. The day had started with Bellman Iain rousing from their slumbers his eighteen Simple Simons. Or to be more exact, seventeen, for Jack was already up, had made the early morning cuppa and was hard on Iain's heels delivering tea to grateful lie-abeds.

When Alan's Irregulars shambled out for the start one rainy morning, what a motley crowd we looked. Gas capes, cycling capes, plastic macs: sou'westers, berets, caps: headgear of all shapes and footwear of many sizes. A more mixed bunch can rarely have been seen in the Wayfarers' Lodge. Ages ranged from a young Cambridge undergraduate to a certain silvery-haired Staff man with an infectious grin; occupations from shopkeepers to scientists, including technicians, a miner and at least one uncivil bureaucrat. From the North West and the North East, Wales and the West Country, from London and the South East, the Midlands and the Fens, we had come to

walk the Lakeland Fells. Some were members of Toc H, some not. All had a sense of humour, a willingness to stretch their legs and a cheerfulness that defied bad weather.

We did not go to Langdale for a quiet stroll along leafy lanes; which was just as well. But it was by no means for the expert walker only. Many had done little or no walking over the Lakeland Hills and some were more fit than others, but none

was overtaxed and all enjoyed the experience (even though we sometimes felt like the man who knocked his head against a wall because it was so nice when he left off). The atmosphere was truly that of a Toc H Branch. Wit and banter flowed freely like Rossett Gill after night of rain, and laughter rang like the bells of nearby Lang-

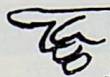


'... singing did not seem to be in favour' bells of nearby Langdale Church, although singing did not seem to be in favour.

We were not, however, denied the treat of good food well cooked. After a day of unaccustomed exertion in the open air, we returned to a hot shower and the biggest dinner that most of us had ever eaten. Any weight lost during the day was restored at 7 p.m. prompt. And you had to be prompt if you wanted your share.

Our gratitude to those who pioneered the Camp and to those who are continuing it, is indeed very great. It was my first, but not I hope my last, experience of Toc H Langdale Camp.

British Transport Film Catalogue

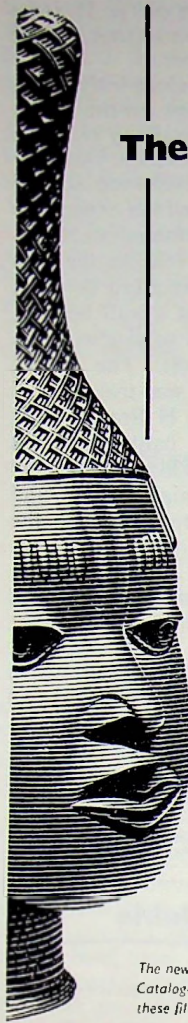


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The New Face of Africa

The superb technical and artistic qualities of the recently discovered Benin Bronzes leave little doubt that a highly developed culture flourished in West Africa during the 16th and 17th centuries. According to Benin tradition, casting was introduced to the Beni Court as far back as the 13th century, originating from Ife, the holy city of the Yoruba people. Today, West Africa is emerging from a long period of obscurity, with British ideas and techniques contributing to a new social and cultural order. Listed below are three of a series of Unilever films which deals with West African life at this critical period of development.

"The Oil Rivers"—Production of palm oil in Nigeria by plantation and village methods.

"Traders in Leathers"—The growing trade in hides and skins, centred around Kano in Northern Nigeria.

"The Twilight Forest"—Extraction of hardwoods from the tropical rain forests. Awarded the *Grand Milan Fair Prize* for documentary films.

Two further films in this series are to be completed. The first, the release of which will be announced about the end of the year, shows the traditional surf boats of Ghana. These and other Unilever films of wide general interest may be borrowed by all responsible organisations from the Unilever Film Library.

UNILEVER FILMS

The new 1759/59 Unilever Catalogue, containing details of these films, is available on request to:—

Unilever Film Library, (Dept. K) Unilever Limited, Blackfriars, London, E.C.4.

UMF2 74829



Multum in Parvo much in little

✠ Sir ION HAMILTON BENN, Bt., C.B., D.S.O., a Vice-President for thirty years, has been appointed a President of the Toc H Association.

✠ Miss A. B. S. MACFIE, Founder Pilot, Toc H Women's Association, leaves London on September 23, via Johannesburg, to visit Australia and New Zealand. She will return after January via Hong Kong and Singapore.

✠ ALEC CHURCHER is now the guest of Toc H in South Africa until November.

✠ Padre A. G. (Bob) KNIGHT is moving from the Southern Area to the Manchester and North-Western Areas. Address: Toc H, 27 Brazenose Street, Manchester 2.

✠ G. STEPHEN REGIS will join the staff after demobilisation and will be attached to the Manchester and North-Western Areas from October.

✠ W. FRED BROOKER will be leaving the Western Area to become Southern Area Secretary.

✠ BURTON HEATHCOTE has been appointed Hon. Area Correspondent, Western Area.

✠ W. T. (Tim) TOBIAS has been appointed Oxford and Thames Valley Area Secretary. Address: 58 Claremont Road, West Ealing, W.13.

✠ The Rev. MICHAEL JACKSON CAMPBELL, lately Minister of Burlington Methodist Church, Bridlington, is working in the Lincolnshire Area until November.

✠ AREA RALLIES: September 13-14, Northern at Durham. October 4, East Midlands at Market Harborough, North Wales at Llandudno. October 4-5, East Anglia at Overstrand, South-Western at Westward Ho! October 18, Beds. and Herts. at Harpenden, Eastern London at Chelmsford.

✠ "PEOPLE TO PEOPLE": September 28 to October 4, the Week of International Friendship throughout Britain.

✠ AUSTRALIAN FESTIVAL and Conference: October 25 to November 2, Point Lonsdale, Victoria.

✠ REMEMBRANCE DAY Ceremony, Whitehall, London, on Sunday, November 9: Men and women wishing to join the ex-Service contingent are invited to apply to H.Q. for tickets.

✠ OBERAMMERGAU, 1960: All who wish to know about the Toc H Pilgrimage to the Passion Play during a June fortnight are asked to register their names this month with O.P.P.P., 47 Francis St., London, S.W.1.

The Family Purse

THE INCOME from Members and Branches at June 30, 1958, was almost exactly the same as in 1957 at the same date. Direct contributions from Branches were down but tax recovered was up.

TOC H Headquarters & Areas Income from Members and Branches for 8 months to June 30, 1957 and 1958.

	Totals		Direct Gifts		Tax Recovered	
	1957 £	1958 £	1957 £	1958 £	1957 £	1958 £
Beds & Herts. ...	420	431	344	320	76	111
East Anglia. ...	486	464	449	407	37	57
Ireland ...	7	47	2	42	5	5
Kent ...	662	686	529	529	133	157
Lakes ...	134	164	119	148	15	16
Lines ...	245	152	237	133	8	19
E. London ...	399	431	359	378	40	53
N. London ...	323	301	278	220	45	81
S. London ...	415	438	335	323	80	115
S.E. London ...	339	313	268	238	71	75
W. London ...	523	549	407	436	116	113
Manchester ...	602	652	554	595	48	57
Marches ...	21	95	14	88	7	7
East Midlands ...	985	940	949	897	36	43
West Midlands ...	472	493	421	432	51	61
Northern ...	658	444	639	407	19	37
North Western ...	288	288	244	232	44	56
Notts & Derby ...	432	410	387	365	45	45
O.T.V. ...	365	362	338	333	27	29
Scotland ...	314	248	290	220	24	28
Southern ...	554	626	489	529	65	97
South Western ...	964	855	895	783	69	72
Surrey ...	158	188	137	165	21	23
Sussex ...	357	477	337	436	20	41
Wales ...	515	374	492	355	23	19
Western ...	641	504	585	444	56	60
East Yorks ...	166	150	160	139	6	11
West Yorks ...	470	448	448	416	22	32
	11,915	11,530	10,706	10,010	1,209	1,520
Headquarters, etc.	1,274	1,608	1,066	1,412	208	196
	<u>£13,189</u>	<u>£13,138</u>	<u>£11,772</u>	<u>£11,422</u>	<u>£1,417</u>	<u>£1,716</u>

Some Areas have bettered the improvement made in 1957; some have held the position and some have fallen back.

The Family Target is still one shilling per member per week, (Branches being corporately responsible for these contributions to the Family Purse) many Branches reached the target in 1957; some far surpassed it. I hope these Branches will repeat their performance.

There is still time for Treasurers of other Branches to improve on their 1957 effort this year and to ensure that the total result in every Area including their own, shows another major step forward.

If any Branch Treasurer wants help in this or any other part of his job will he please write to his Hon. Area Treasurer, and if he does not know the address, write to me at Toc H H.Q. and I will forward his letter.

JACK HARRISON.

Branch Banners

XXXV — ST. ANNE'S

Contributed by George E. Leah



OUR banner was made by members of Toc H Women's Association Branch and the centre-piece painted by Bob Swift, a one-time member.

It is a reproduction of the statue erected on the promenade and unveiled by John Talbot Clifton in 1887, to the memory of the whole of the crew, thirteen in all, of the lifeboat *Laura Janet*, who lost their lives in an attempt to rescue the crew of the German Barque *The Mexico*, which was wrecked on Salters Bank on December 9, 1886.

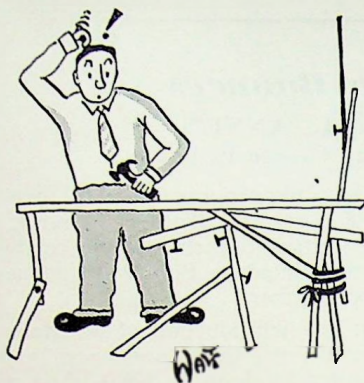
St. Anne's is a town of fairly recent origin and this story being a major event in its history, the statue appears on the coat-of-arms. The Banner is black and gold, and the centre piece shows the lifeboatman in his dun coloured uniform against a background of blue sky and white cloud.

Newport Exhibition

DAVID HUGHES

LAST NOVEMBER the Newport (Monmouth) Branch took a seven-year lease on new premises. The large hall and two small ante-rooms badly needed decorating, and we decided that after the renovations had been completed we would hold an exhibition and fête. Accordingly, on Saturday, June 14, the hall complete with exhibition, was opened to the public.

A sub-committee formed from members of the Branch, the Women's Branch and the Young People's Section, who operate a small tape-recording service, had worked for almost a year in



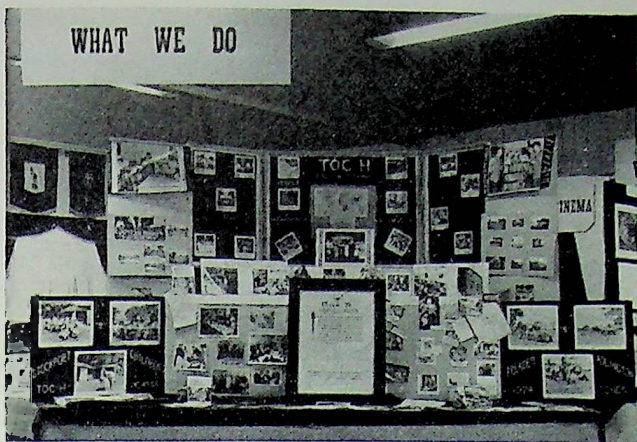
'The designing and erecting of the stalls was done by members'

order to make the necessary plans. None of us had ever organised an exhibition of any sort before, so that it was an entirely new experience, and much had to be learned. But everything, from the designing and erecting of the stalls to the lettering and printing, was done by Toc H members and their friends.

The exhibition was designed under six main headings which surmounted the stalls. They were *What We Are*, giving a brief idea of what Toc H

is all about; *Who We Are*, which showed the mixture of men and women found in Toc H. Members' hobbies were displayed under this heading.

Where We Are, told where Toc H is to be found, firstly in the county of Monmouthshire, and then in the wider world. A larger group of stalls came under the heading of *What We Do*. This showed the work of Toc H locally, nationally and internationally. *Why We Do It*, was the title of the literature stall, and for those not wishing to buy, a reading table was provided.



'One of the stalls showed the work of Toc H locally, nationally and internationally'

Lastly, visitors were told *What You Can Do*. Here were found Builders' literature, and requests for help in the many local jobs we do during the year.

Two features which attracted many visitors were the Mobile Recording Unit stall where, in a special booth, they could record their voices, and also a Miniature Cinema where the Toc H film strip was shown, followed by a ten-minute demonstration film on the Mobile Cinema Unit.

The hall was made additionally attractive by a display of thirty Toc H banners borrowed from Branches all over the country, and we were greatly encouraged by these loans.

The Mayor of Newport was the first visitor to the exhibition, and during the day from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. hundreds of people came in to learn about Toc H and its work. In the afternoon the High Sheriff of Monmouthshire opened our fête on the ground at the rear of the hall.

Members of Toc H Women's Association ran a cafeteria all day. In the evening we held a public meeting which was addressed by the Rev. Gordon Lang who spoke of the need for Toc H principles in the world of today. After this a barbecue was held on the fête ground, and darkness fell as we and our visitors sat round a glowing fire. So successful was the exhibition that we decided to keep it open for a further three evenings.

Far Cry

overseas notes

GEOFF MARTIN

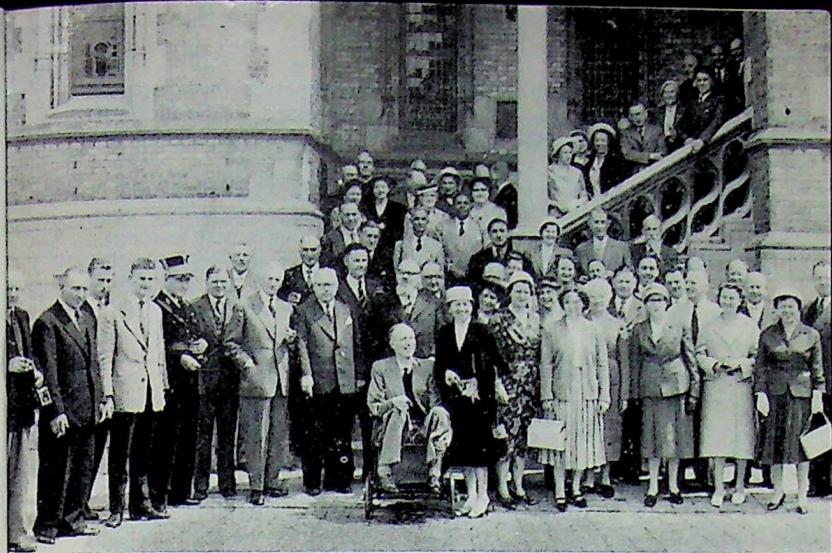


CONFERENCE IN POPERINGE

AT THE END OF JUNE a five-day conference was held in the Old House, intended primarily for members from overseas. They came from South Africa, Australia, Uganda, Ghana, Jamaica, Singapore, Denmark and Belgium, while in terms of past experience many other countries were represented by the small nucleus of Central Executive members who were also there.

The conference sessions were held on the Saturday and Sunday, and their theme was that of the Brussels Exhibition "Building a World for Man". About forty people met in the Library and shared experiences and ideas on learning to live together; living with men of different races, with migrants, refugees, new neighbours.

The Rev. Harold Howe, former Administrator of Toc H, acted as Chaplain to the Conference, Miss Kathleen Owen and Ronald Symons chaired alternate sessions, and John Callf gave the opening and closing talks. At the beginning a series of eight-minute briefing talks were given by Jack Davis (South Africa), Alan Williams (Australia), Eric Maiden (Singapore), Lord Colgrain (India), Kathleen Owen (West Africa), Gordon Blackman (Belgium), and Charles Potts (Uganda). We were particularly happy to welcome to the sessions several of our Poperinge friends who were meeting Toc H for the first time in a conference setting. Admittedly, there were diversions from the serious consideration of how we humans can continue to live happily together in this twentieth century world; some of them were intentional and some were unintentional but they all combined to make the whole experiment a remarkably cheerful affair. Among the former were visits to the Salient, to Bruges and to the Brussels Exhibition. A tea-party was given to the "Bridge-builders" (the name adopted by the Belgian friends who ran the canteen in the Old House soon after the liberation) and a reception at the town hall was given by the Burgomaster with the Provincial Governor himself



'... a reception was given at the Town Hall by the Burgomaster ...'

represented. On this occasion, speeches of welcome were made in English and Flemish, by both the Burgomaster and the Provincial representative, and acknowledged in Flemish and English by Jack Trefusis on behalf of Toc H.

One morning, our good friend, the proprietor of the "Oud Vlanderen" arranged a highly entertaining film show in his cinema.

And so the time passed, very quickly, very happily, and, as always, with the Upper Room giving purpose and point to gaiety and gravity alike.

REPORTED AT KODAIKANAL

The few hours recently spent in London by R. D. Paul, the Hon. Commissioner for Toc H in India, were, as one would expect, as stimulating as a breath of fresh air direct from the hills of South India. They were also informative, particularly in connection with the Ryimal Conference held early in the summer in Kodaikanal.

The days began at 5.45 a.m. with what the programme describes as "Morning watch at the Rock of Vision (Rev. R. R. Keithahn)", a silent meditation at dawn for fifteen minutes sitting on a projecting shelf of rock just outside the *ashram*.

Toc H India, with its merits and weaknesses was discussed frankly. How the Movement as expressed in South India differs from the rest of the world is evident throughout the report.

Toc H members who have a special interest in India will be glad to know that Padre Harry Gordon Jones has now completed his course at the language school and is now immersed in work for Toc H. They will also be interested to learn that R. D. Paul has produced his latest book on the Church of South India, *The First Decade*. It will be reviewed in the JOURNAL later in the year.

Iona Holiday

W. H. SOPPITT

WE ARRIVED IN OBAN to embark on the steamer for a week's stay with the Community on Iona. The trip is a very beautiful one, with Mull coming into sight on the starboard and the other small islands looking like gems set in a silvery sea.

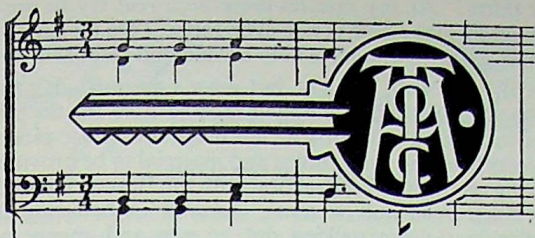
On stepping ashore we were greeted by Johnnie MacMillan who took us first to the Cathedral and then to our lodging where we met the craftsmen engaged on the building work. Settling in took little time as everyone was keen to look around, while those who had been before were anxious to air their knowledge about the historic buildings and what had happened there in the distant past.

During the days that followed the party took many walks to the little bays where one could sit and watch the seals at play and many kinds of birds. Then there were the marble quarries and Columba's Bay, where it is said that Columba first brought Christianity to Britain.

Morning and evening prayers are an all-the-year-round feature of life in the Community, and whilst the services are quite voluntary they were attended by all the members of our party.

The week was all too short, and soon it was time for 'good-byes' to be said, promises made to come again and then we were on our way again, back to our homes after one of the best holidays ever.

I cannot end without expressing sincere thanks to Johnnie MacMillan for the companionship and leadership he gave to us all during this memorable stay on the Isle of Iona.



2

The second of the series of short talks about "Keynotes for 1959-60" for reading aloud at Branch Meetings

Keymen Wanted

"KEYNOTES" are going to concern every Branch (and every group) in practical ways. Our concern at this stage is for the manpower, which is the key to the planning.

"Keymen" are going to be wanted from every Branch, be it small or large or medium (and from every group). Who are they to be? They need *not* be the leaders of the past, nor even of the present—those who are already in office. They *ought* to be the leaders of the future. And this makes it a bit embarrassing at the start!

How are these Key Men to be found and chosen? The Branch should have in its midst two men, whom it would pick for the promise of some years of active leadership ahead of them. Chairmen of some Branch Executives might choose to spare the blushes by selecting four or five names and asking the Area or District officers they know best to take their pick. Or the Branch might vote to leave it to some one member to choose the two to be invited to become Keymen. Anyhow it will be up to the Branch to nominate their men at the due time and to ensure that the choice, however arrived at, is wise, acceptable and far-seeing.

It's by no means out of the question to use the occasion by searching for probationers or new men who would be willing to be committed to this special job. Rarely does such a chance occur of challenging one or two such men to see what they could do in the next two years. Risky, yes, but worth it!

Ideally their average age should be in the thirties. This means that, for every one Keyman much over forty, two should

be under thirty! At any rate let there be a real try to see at least *one* out of every pair is *not* over forty. (We all know of men in their twenties who have ably shouldered responsibility.)

This is all very well, you say, but *what's the job?* It's this. Keymen are asked to dedicate their Toc H time for the next two years to looking outwards at the neighbourhood, picking their projects from the wide choice and material to be provided, and working on them in conjunction with the Branch members and with other men and women. As well as bettering the present, this may mean striking out on new and unexpected lines in the future.

Advance copies of the booklet on the *Keynote Projects* will be made available shortly to those concerned in the earlier Keynote Conferences. To help at the start, the Keymen could have in the District or Area an "Open Sesame" session, where they could talk over their own self-briefing and working plans. Some months later, having gained in ideas and new experiences, they will be expected to summarize them verbally or in writing in small group discussions during the week-end Keynote Conferences. Having learnt much there from the wider circle and worked on it, they will have an opportunity later of contributing an account of their commission to their own Area and beyond it. In all of this they will be dealing in practical matters, deserving of practical application by the Branch, and with the aim of achieving practical results.

One thing certain is that the right Keymen will not always be the first or obvious snap choices. Time and guidance are needed in considering the significance of their selection, even its sacredness. It will call for imagination and a vision of the future.

TOC H CAR BADGES



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Open Hustings

readers' letters

The Editor welcomes letters on all matters concerning Toc H and asks that they be written briefly and to the point. Effort is made to include a representative selection, and they are printed as individual view-points, not necessarily those of the Movement as a whole.

'Spreading Toc H'

SINCE I wrote my first letter we have had the Annual Report and the Report of the Central Council Meeting. The Annual Report showed once again that membership is falling and recruitment is not keeping pace with loss of members. The Report therefore emphasises the need for "spreading Toc H" unless it is to vanish.

I was personally delighted to read of the "Keynotes" resolution at the Central Council Meeting. It reaffirmed the faith of Toc H in the Main Resolution and the Four Points of the Compass. Because these set out a Christian way of life for Toc H members, they were often found difficult to follow, and there was a danger that they may be put aside and treated as of no consequence. It is far too easy to adopt a humanitarian rather than a Christian point of view. Then too, the Central Executive, and presumably the Staff, are to give Branches some leadership in the things that matter. Like others, I hope that they will show a sense of urgency. As Tubby once told us in this JOURNAL, "There's plenty of time" is one of the devil's methods of keeping men from God.

With regard to the correspon-

dence on this subject, I agree with the supplementary views put forward by Jim Symons and J. K. Dare. I have read Colin Hill's letter several times but I still do not completely understand it. He also does not appear to have understood my letter.

What I meant by "The spirit which existed in the 1930's" was the spirit derived from the basic Christian principles set out in the Main Resolution and the Compass. Members were keen and enthusiastic, and had a sense of conviction. These are the things of the spirit which do not age. They are the things which caused St. Peter and St. Paul to start the first branches of the Christian Church. They are the things which are needed today if Toc H or any other Christian Movement is to grow.

As the years go by the work of Movements like Toc H may change. To be true to itself, it must however still "spread the Gospel" with or without preaching it. That Gospel has remained the same and links the past with the present and the present with the future. So to Colin Hill and anyone who shares his views, I would say that in connection with the spirit of the 1930s there should be no "point of tension", nor any need "to re-think our principles

in the light of contemporary issues". All that we have to do is to be convinced that our principles are Christian and eternal, and go forward with enthusiasm, and pass them on to others.

H. A. ELLIOTT.

*Bishop's Castle,
Shropshire.*

IN REPLY to J. K. Dare in the June issue, I cannot reconcile that the progress of God's Kingdom is retarded by men and women Branches working separately with Christ's example in His perfect understanding of the sexes. He chose men only as His apostles. This example has been practised by the Church since its formation as typified in the contribution of the religious orders in work and prayer shared by men and women in their separate Orders.

LESLIE PRITCHARD.

Taunton, Somerset.

RECENTLY J. K. Dare has reiterated views I wrote to 'Open Hustings' about eight years ago. I said then that Toc H cannot survive as a Family unless it has many more joint meetings for men and women. This state of 'divorce' has kept young people with family ties out of Toc H.

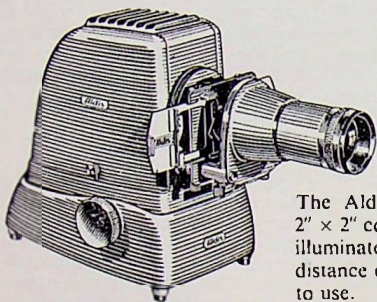
I have always found that the Churches which flourish most are those that offer a mixed club for thinking people aged 20-40 who are ready and willing to give active help in church life. It is a training ground for the leaders of tomorrow.

Bromley Branch has always been my ideal pattern with monthly joint meetings and a joint job. If anyone wants to shout the odds, and I'm sure there will be many, let him first see for himself, and shout after.

DUDLEY OSMOND-SMITH.

Havant, Hants.

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From All Parts



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WALES—This year's autumn Conference is being held at Llandudno on October 4-5. The H.D.C. will be glad to supply particulars. The Sheep Dog Trials organised by **Llandudno** this year raised some £60 for the Elderly People's Centre now in course of construction. In liaison with Manchester District, the Children's Holiday Camp operated by **Rhyl** was again a great success and **Conway** members helped each Wednesday by entertaining the children in their historic walled town.

GWILYM A. EDWARDS.

WEST MIDLANDS—Two cars and a minibus organised by **Wylde Green** group transported seventeen children and seven helpers to **Weston-Super-Mare** for a day. Large bags for 'use in case' had to be renewed for the return journey! Nevertheless the youngsters' first vision of the sea was worth all. Secretary **Fred Brookes** of **Kingswinford** group and six others are putting their town on the **Toe H** map. They have a grand spirit and at a recent meeting two Branches arrived unexpectedly to swell the numbers to twenty-nine—and the tea held out! **West Bromwich** won the "Silver" Cup in the North Birmingham inter-Branch darts competition. The Cup was presented by **Eric Timms**, leader of the **Sandwell Blind Club**. The latter are gaining strength and meet every Friday evening. Alternately a concert and a natter night are arranged. Attendance on concert nights has been up to seventy! (fifty is a comfortable room capacity). Scouting contacts are growing in **Marches** District and particular interest is being shown in **Pudleston Court** troop of fifty backward boys. Other Scouting relationships are on a close footing and **Hednesford** have supplied a Group Scoutmaster, a Scoutmaster and a Secretary for the local Boy Scouts Association.

NOEL CARTWRIGHT.

BEDS. & HERTS.—A Lamp was re-lit at **Stony Stratford** when **Doc, Gullick**, Area Chairman, handed their Lamp to seven new and youthful members in the presence of their mother-branch **Wolverton**. Branch status has been granted to **Stopsley** and a group recognised at **Leighton Buzzard**, where **Dunstable** have been making contacts. Success has attended first meetings at **Hitchin**. **Padre Sloan** of **Potters Bar** was guest-speaker when **Borchamwood** entertained neighbouring Branches at their third birthday party. **Romford** (Essex) with Women's Association members arranged a bumper meal when **Harpenden** took a coach-load of old folk for an outing to **Westcliffe**. **Harpenden** put some of their gas to useful purpose for a balloon race at the National Children's Homes Open Day, in grounds where they are arranging an Area Rally on October 18. **Batford** members were also busy as stewards. **Goff's Oak** again entertained a hundred blind people who came by coach from London. When **Bedford** and **Biggleswade** went to All Hallows to meet a party from Kent they found **Tubby** waiting to greet them. **Bedford** District organised a Rest Tent for workers at **Bedfordshire Agricultural Show**.

FRANK R. FIGG.

N. LONDON—Mill Hill held a rather unusual initiation the other evening when the sons of two of the Branch members were initiated. Both have done a lot of work for the Branch as Toc H Builders and are now enthusiastic members. Tubby paid a surprise visit to **Tottenham** when the Branch were entertaining fifteen members of Mill Hill. On Sunday, June 8 **Southgate** and **Barnet** combined to take the members of a Multiple Sclerosis Group for an outing to the sea. Twenty-two private car drivers were enlisted and set off with about forty M.S. members and a number of Toc H men and women. On arrival at the coast they were met by Toc H members from **Middleton-on-Sea** and **Felpham** who supplied wheelchairs and tea with music. The weather was kind and it was a great day. **Chase** and **North Middlesex** Districts held a Garden Party indoors on June 28, owing to bad weather but raised nearly £100.

MAYNE ELSON.

EAST ANGLIA—Eighty-five members from six Branches together with their wives enjoyed a river trip round the Broads arranged annually by **Hoveton & Wroxham** Branch. When members of the Old People's Club were entertained to a games evening by **Sheringham** Branch, a member played a dual rôle in welcoming the visitors, as Deputy Branch Chairman, and later, as Club Secretary, thanking his fellow members for their hospitality. **Wymondham** Branch members on one of their regular monthly visits to Wicklewood Hospital, toured the wards in company with the youthful members of a local skiffle group. **Cambridge** Branch, which for some years has provided entertainments for Old People's Homes, has discovered a new supply of talent in the local schools. The Branch reports the standard to be unusually high and the idea of the youngsters going out to entertain small groups of old people has received the approval of the authorities, who recognise the value of the experience in introducing the children to service to others. At two Homes recently the residents much enjoyed Scottish Country Dancing performed by pupils from the Central Girls School. (Cambridge Branch does not reserve the performing rights of this idea!) The 'Stockmen's Rest Tent & 'All-Night' Canteen' at the Suffolk County and Royal Norfolk Shows was again as busy as ever and the value of this corporate job appears to increase each year. The effort at the Royal Norfolk Show was the subject of a five-minute broadcast by the B.B.C. in 'East Anglian Highlights', which included interviews with stockmen in the Toc H Rest Tent.

REG SMITH.

OXFORD & THAMES VALLEY—There is encouraging news of the **Windsor** group, and **Iver** Branch are helping them while **Wexham** District Team is going all out to put them on their feet. Already on its feet is **Henley** Joint Branch, and one of their latest efforts was to organise a river trip for a party of handicapped girls from the Andrew Duncan Home. **Caversham** Branch Film Unit is now in great demand, and a system of regular booking has been arranged. The new Secretary of **Slough** Branch is Peter Selby, 17 High Street, Slough. Our Area Chairman, Jim McCormack, has resigned on taking up a new appointment outside the Area. Rumour has it that he is at present sun bathing at Brighton! **Maidenhead** Branch jobs take them among the blind, the deaf and dumb, old people, Borstal boys, Children's Homes, Hospitals, but they still manage to get in games of darts, cricket, football, and they even skiffle!

JOHN WILSON.

LONDON—Despite the bus strike a goodly number of spectators turned up for the annual Athletic Sports meeting in Battersea Park on June 14. They included Tubby and several members of H.Q. Staff. The number of competitors was also an increase over last year. Two special events were held for deaf lads from St. Nicholas Hostel, Wembley, which is run by a Toc H member. Mark II deservedly retained the Mark Championship and were duly presented with the Fleming Memorial Cup at the close by Charles Thompson, a former Olympic judge.

MAYNE ELSON.



East Kent Times

A feature of the recent Kent Area Festival was a number of display stands illustrating aspects of Toc H. The one pictured here was a joint effort by Branches of Thanet District

NOTTS. & DERBY—Congratulations and good wishes to Derby group, now a Branch. A recent 'meeting' was spent on a pitch-and-put golf course which has much to be said for it. **Mansfield Woodhouse** Branch is to visit **Mark XXI, Derby** for a games night on September 16. A new group, **Nottingham City** has recently come into being and is specifically concerned with Toc H in the city. It meets from 6 p.m. to about 8.30 p.m. and members go straight to it from work. A decision to divide **Nottingham** District into town and country has been taken and it looks as if it will work out well. **Newark** Branch gave thirty-five children from local Children's Homes a day out in Wicksteed Park. **Bolsover** wrote to their M.P. expressing concern about the allegation made by the five Mau Mau prisoners which appeared in the Press. A letter of thanks and explanation has been received. **East Derby** District held its annual Gnat Feast on July 10 and members enjoyed it as much as did the gnats. **Bakewell** Branch runs a twice weekly sales service at the local hospital.

LES WHEATLEY.



Rotherham Advertiser

Rotherham Branch receives its Lamp from the Area Secretary at the ancient chantry chapel on the bridge at Rotherham

YORKSHIRE—The Yorkshire Area Festival was held in York on May 17 with about three hundred men and women present. A service was followed by a Festival evening with a Brains Trust and then a play *Sons of Adam* written by Canon Lamb of St. John's College, produced by Mrs. Lamb and played by students and friends from the college. It was a departure from tradition, but everyone voted it a first class festival. **Hull District** have 'adopted' ten aged men in a local hospital. They have also taken a party of forty cripples to Withernsea, where they were given tea and entertainment. This is turning into an annual job. **Pocklington** are arranging their usual summer visits to Water Priors and Burnley Hall. **York Branch** have now completed their second film showing Toc H activities and are giving shows to hospitals with their film unit. **Selby group**, in conjunction with local societies, are raising funds to equip the local T.B. hospital with a telephone trolley. **Ayton Branch** have undertaken to look after the village war memorial. **Oughtibridge** recently entertained **Pollington Branch** members with a tour of the local beauty spots and finished up with a pie supper. **Northallerton** celebrated their thirty-first birthday on May 7 when Iain Fraser was the speaker and quite a few visitors were present. **Huddersfield** celebrated their 1600th meeting on May 22 with a dinner to which local friends who had helped in the Hospital Broadcast Service were invited as guests. The speaker was Arch-deacon Eric Treacy of Halifax. **Crosland Moor Branch** (Huddersfield) have arranged a car rally in aid of Toc H funds. **Huddersfield District** are helping at the Cheshire Home at "White Windows" and recently provided a host of helpers at their Garden Party. **Wakefield**, owing to moves in the district now have four Stationmasters as members; is this a record? There are possibilities of starting up on a new housing estate near to **Kimberworth**. Congratulations to Harold

Lister, General Member and late of **Keighley** Branch on receiving a bar to his Polar Medal. He was a member of Dr. Fuch's party. **Bailiff Bridge** celebrated their hundredth meeting on June 18 and were recently visited by **Cleckheaton** Branch in holiday spirit.

JOHN MADDOCK.

EAST MIDLANDS—The venue of this year's annual cripple's outing organised by **Peterborough** District was Oundle School—an affiliated school—thanks to the kind co-operation of the Headmaster and the School Chaplain, together with Senior boys. July 10 dawned bright and remained so, and the seventy-five cripples in forty-two cars—generously put at the disposal of Toc H by willing helpers—had been checked in and were on their way on a twenty-five mile ride through the attractive countryside of Northamptonshire. Some thirty-five cripple chairs previously collected from the homes of the cripples were loaded on to a pantechicon and taken to the school. Tea was served on the Tuck Shop lawn, followed by a tour of the gardens and chapel conducted by twenty senior boys who not only ministered to the needs of the cripples, but thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity put before them. By 6.30 p.m. the last car had been loaded and the cripple chairs collected for return. The visit to the school and the opportunity to meet the senior boys made a great difference to these crippled people who get so little out of life.

ALEX TAYLOR.

Members and friends of **Barton-on-Humber** Branch visited **Peterborough** where arrangements were made for the visitors to be shown the outside of the Cathedral, to be welcomed by the strains of the *Lincolnshire Poacher* during the local T.A. Jubilee Review, to be met in Bridge Street by Arnold Pigg and given a pep talk on Belra and to see the Duke of Gloucester *en route* for the Cathedral. In the afternoon they joined the members and families of Toc H in **Peterborough** in the garden of Edgar Bowering at Chesterton and enjoyed an *alfresco* tea. The visit concluded with Evensong in the village church. Padre Gibbings took the service, Sarge took 'Light' and the accompanying music was provided by George Williamson (front of organ) and Edgar Bowering (rear of organ).

NOXID.

The annual Old Folks outing arranged by **Anstey** Branch required ninety cars and tea for nearly three hundred. The party was held in the heart of Leicester Forest at the home of a member and vice-president, Sir Robert Martin. Tea was provided in a marquee where Lady Martin welcomed the guests. Sir Robert returned early from another meeting to join the party for tea. **Mid-Northants** District held a Toc H Day at Knuston Hall. Discussions were opened by Skipper Emmerson of Coalville and Padre Jim Davies. Games on the lawn and croquet under local rules helped and hindered local understanding. Members were refreshed and stimulated by their day together. **Kibworth** have received their Lamp from Harry Gee, the Area Chairman. **Leicester South** have experienced the delights of running a successful Gala. **Peterborough**, **Welland** and **Fen** Districts met at the Manor House, Thurlby, and had an evening of games ending with prayers in the ancient church. A 'full house' is expected at **Market Harborough** for the Area Festival on Saturday, October 4.

COLIN STEVENSON.



Shrewsbury Chronicle

A party of fifty-five fatherless children who enjoyed a day's outing to the seaside as the guests of Shrewsbury, Wellington and Rhyl members

MARCHES—Sydney Swain paid a second visit to us and found a further fifty-nine Builders from among ex-members, thirty-one signing Deeds of Covenant. Ted Parke now takes over as Secretary to the Executive Committee and has been elected to the Central Council. **Chirk** Branch have tidied up the surround of the War Memorial and members have since been seen working on the Hospital Drive. **Weston Rhyn** gave an Old Folks Party in the village. **Llangollen** members again did good work at this year's International Eisteddfod and made many friends from overseas. Bert Reeves, the Eisteddfod's first Secretary, was presented to the Duke of Edinburgh. T. ROMANIS.

SOUTHERN—Lyndhurst group begin regular meetings this month, and Southampton District stretches its influence a bit further into the depths of the New Forest. There are good possibilities of a start this autumn at **Portland**, due to the arrival of Padre W. Bedder at St. John's there. He was also in at the start of **Woolston** Branch some years ago. The 'Never-Seen-the-Sea-Before' Camp at Christchurch, four evening cruises around Weymouth Bay, and the Area Garden Party have occupied many of us recently. **Farlington** ran their Garden Party again in good weather, though it seems they could have done with more parents to accompany the children and spend some money! The Mayor of Southampton, Alderman R. H. Hammond, Chairman of our Mark Friends' Committee, has honoured Toc H by including us in the Mayoral Appeal this year. BOB KNIGHT.

EASTERN LONDON—It's an ill wind that blows nobody any good and, when **Stanford-le-Hope** were helping at their local carnival, they drew the crowds because heavy rain made the visitors seek the shelter of the Toc H stall. Marksmen at **Hackney** have redecorated the room of an old couple, working like trojans to get the job finished in one day. **Rayleigh** collected over 1000 pairs of spectacles last year for Medical Missions in S.E. Asia—and they are still at it. **Barking** have once more made a success of their Annual Jumble sale. JIM GREEN.



The Hooke School and Yeovil Branch eleven, with their supporters

SOUTH WESTERN—In spite of poor weather the Rock Fair run by **Yelverton** was a great success and many hope it will be repeated next year. Rallies held by **West Somerset District** and **Lyme Bay District** were both very well attended and both combined very suitably the grave and the gay, good fellowship with deep thinking. **Yeovil** went on a visit to **Hooke School**. **Beaminster** played the lads at cricket—and won! Neither side can understand why! The annual camp at **South Petherton** was enjoyed as much as ever. The experience of camping together for a weekend, combined with a thought-provoking talk by **Lord Harding** of **Petherton**, followed by discussion, made this a memorable occasion. **Whipton** have received their Lamp, given in memory of the late 'Pop' Rogers, and go forward with high hopes for the future. Latest extension is at **St. Germans**; names and addresses of contacts please to: **Reg Chester**, Fore Street, **St. Germans**, Cornwall.
GILBERT FRANCIS.

LINCOLNSHIRE—**Bratoft Church** was packed to capacity for **Burg-le-Marsh Branch's** Birthday Festival. **Padre Nestor** took the service, at which many local organisations were represented. **Stamford** are collecting old spectacles for use in African Missions. **West Wolds District** held a family night at the pretty **Lincolnshire** village of **Tealby**. A service was held in the **Methodist Chapel**, after which the party, with their wives and children, went for a stroll on a beautiful summer evening, and later a delightful run to **Osgodby** where the local Branch had prepared "Grub". **Grimsby** paid their annual visit to **Scunthorpe** and had a very enjoyable evening. **Barton-on-Humber** with all **Toc H** members in the Area mourns the passing of **Syd. Temple**. **Syd** was one of the oldest serving members in **Lincolnshire**, a former Chairman of the District Team and for many years an active Area Executive member, with long service on the Guard of the Lamp. We are better men for having known **Syd**.
CLEM. CRUMMY.

W. LONDON—Members from **Hounslow** descended in a body one evening on a local Old People's Home and in an hour or two they transformed the garden out of all recognition, to the great satisfaction of the Matron and the inhabitants. A recent speaker at **Wembley's** Blind Social Club was Mr. F. Hatley, a professional toastmaster who has met many well-known political and theatrical personalities. On Saturday, June 7 **Putney Park** men's and women's Branches held their most successful Garden Fête in the grounds of the Church Army Sunset Home in Putney Hill. Music was provided by the 2nd Mortlake Boy Scout Group. Congratulations to **Northolt** who have just been awarded Branch status. **Richmond** combined with **Henley** to give crippled girls from the Andrew Duncan Home at Shiplake an enjoyable day in Kew Gardens.

MAYNE ELSON.



A Lambeth old-age-pensioner's garden, transformed from a rubbish dump by members of Kennington Branch

S. & S.E. LONDON—Congratulations to **Chislehurst** on their recognition as a Branch. The acting Secretary is also the Branch Chairman, Jim Cobby, 5 The Weald, Chislehurst. Twenty-five old folk were taken to Worthing in June in the cars of members and friends of **Sanderstead** while **Worthing** members provided teas. For twenty-seven years the **West Wickham** and **Dulwich** Branches have held an annual party for cripples at Keston Village Hall and in all that time have had only one wet day for this much-looked-forward-to event. Some ninety cripples were again entertained this year. **New Addington** were among a number of organisations who helped the Friends of Queen's Hospital, Croydon, in running their annual fair. When **Belvedere** assisted the local Magical Society in entertaining the Erith Veterans Club, one of the magicians was R. Wisdom, their Branch Secretary. **Erith** also supported this effort, and the **Toc H W.A.** Branch produced tea. **Coney Hall** are helping to maintain and support the local Assembly Hall, and have completed the redecoration of the library.

SAM EVANS.

Journal Smalls

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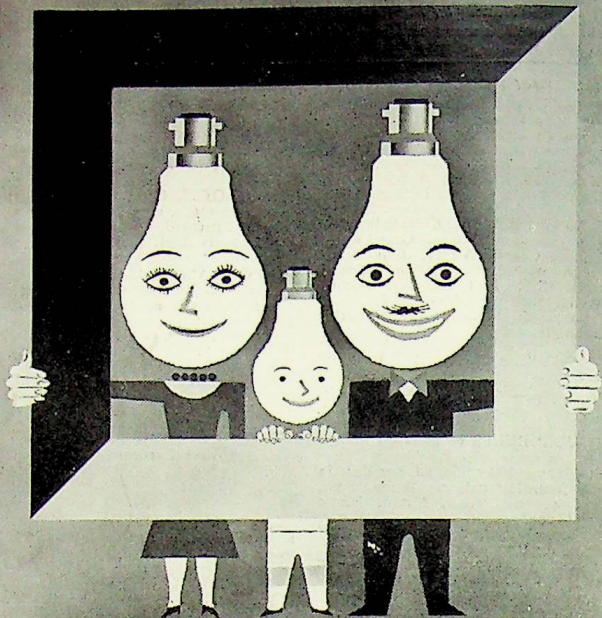
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